

# Grinnell Herald - Reg

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

EIGHTIETH YEAR

GRINNELL, POWESHIEK COUNTY, IOWA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 1947

## Hon. J. W. Gannaway Dies Suddenly Wedne

### Active In Education And Politics

Represented Poweshiek  
County In The Iowa  
Legislature

Hon. John W. Gannaway, representative from Poweshiek county in the lower house of the Iowa legislature, former Republican county chairman, for many years a member of the Grinnell college faculty as professor of Political Science and former Grand Master of the Masons of Iowa, passed away from a heart ailment in a local hospital at 12:15 o'clock, A. M. Wednesday. Mr. Gannaway had been suffering for some time from a heart ailment. Tuesday night his condition became acute and he was rushed to the hospital, dying about half an hour after he reached it.

Funeral services conducted by Rev. Leland W. Mann will be held Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock in the Congregational church. Hermon Lodge, A. F. and A. M. will conduct the Masonic graveside rites in charge of F. W. Tomasek with Rev. Mr. Mann acting as chaplain.

#### Achievement In Many Fields

Mr. Gannaway's life was one of distinct achievement in many fields. He was born at Pleasant Grove, Iowa, not far from Burlington, on April 15, 1877, the son of Robertson and Rosa Minard Gannaway. He attended the Grinnell academy, then an adjunct of the college, graduating in 1897 and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Grinnell college with the class of 1902. During his student days he sat at the feet of Professor Jesse Macy and acquired the interest in government which never deserted him. Following graduation he continued his studies under Professor Macy, receiving his Master's degree in 1903. Three years of graduate study at the University of Wisconsin followed and in 1909 he answered a call to become editorial writer on the Milwaukee Journal, where he served with distinction until 1911.

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In 1911 he began his long connection with the college as assistant professor of Political Science. In 1912 he became associate professor and headed the department. He continued as a member of the faculty until he attained an emeritus relation in 1944.

**Active in Politics**  
Following his retirement from the college faculty, Mr. Gannaway displayed an active interest in politics which he had never been able to display before, serving as chairman of the county Republican central committee during the last presidential campaign. He was elected to the state legislature in the 1916 election with little opposition and had served his first term.

A keen student of governmental problems, a clear thinker and an able speaker, Mr. Gannaway seemed headed for a long and useful career in the legislature until death intervened.

On Oct. 24, 1906, Mr. Gannaway was united in marriage in Grinnell with Mary McIntosh, daughter of "Andy" McIntosh, pioneer Grinnell business man. Mrs. Gannaway survives him with the three sons, John W., Jr., of Silver Springs, Md., Robert of Oak Park, Ill. and William of Grinnell. Surviving also are five



Hon. J. W. Gannaway  
(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 1)

grandchildren, a brother, Will Gannaway of Medford, Oregon and a sister, Mrs. Betty Higgins of Seattle, Wash.

#### An Active Mason

Second only to Mr. Gannaway's interest in politics was his interest in Masonry and in 1930 he

received the highest honor, the gift of the Masters of Iowa when they made him Grand Master for the state. He also served as Master of Herman lodge, as Senior Grand Warden of the Iowa Grand Lodge in 1936, as a member of the charity committee 1924-30 and as a member of the memorial service committee. He was a Royal Arch Mason, a Royal and

Scottish Rite Mason and a member of the Shrine. He also served during his long life in Grinnell as a member of the city council and

president of the Community hospital board. He was an active member of the Congregational church and of the Powerhick club. He was also a member of Phi Beta Kappa honorary scholastic fraternity and of Sigma Delta Chi, journalistic fraternity and one of the last public appearances was when the Grinnell

chapter of Sigma Delta Chi was revived last spring.

He was co-author with Professor Macy of a standard text on Political Science, "Comparative

Government and Politics."

Contributor of articles to the Iowa Journal of History and Politics.

"Masonry, Golf and Roses"

Who's Who in Iowa, published



in 1940, lists Mr. Gannaway's hobbies as Masonry, golf and roses. All three hobbies he followed persistently. His Masonic activities have been referred to as long as his health permitted he was one of Grinnell's best golfers, having held the city championship and his beautiful rose garden was the pride and joy of his last years.

Grinnell will not soon be the same without John Gannaway with his keen insight into governmental problems, his interest in good citizenship, his vocal support of the things in which he believed. It is with deep regret that The Register staff faced this good friend of many years.